

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Fabens ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fabens ISD was held Wednesday, November 16, 2022 beginning at 6:30 PM in the Central Office, Board Room, 821 NE G Avenue, Fabens, TX 79838.

Members Present: Orlando Flores
Rosamaria Gallo-Avitia
Sylvia Gonzales
Benjamin Morales

Members Absent: Adan Escobar
Greg Spence
Viola Hernandez

Administrators Present: Dr. Veronica Vijil
Mr. Martin Torres
Mr. David Ayala
Dr. Samuel Hogue
Ms. Monica Lyons
Ms. Corina Ruiz
Ms. Michele Gonzalez
Ms. Roseanne Armendariz
Mr. Jesus Barba
Ms. Marcela Licerio
Mr. Edgar Rincon

Maria T. Rodriguez

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance – 6:31 PM

The meeting was called to order by Board President, Mr. Benjamin Morales at 9:03 AM. All members were present except Mr. Adan Escobar, Ms. Viola Hernandez and Mr. Greg Spence. The Pledge of Allegiance, mission and vision statements were recited by all present.

2. Communication and Visitors – 6:32 – 6:43 PM

Under the portion of the meeting, the following people addressed the Board:

Ms. Rosamaria Gallo-Aviita addressed the Board and congratulated the new and re-elected members and welcomed them to their volunteer work. She asked that new board members familiarize themselves with the course of action the old board members and district were on. "Voice your opinions" she stated. She thanked the administration, board members and staff for all their hard work. She asked that the new members attend legal workshops as soon as possible.

Mr. Ray Calzadias, parent and community member addressed the Board on the wrestling program needing a facility with all the amenities of a locker room. They are currently practicing at the O'Donnell gym but he did list the issues with sharing the gym with the campus students. He did recommend the Isaac Camacho facility as an ideal location for the program.

Ms. Joann Sepulveda Rodriguez, community member, addressed the board and congratulated the newly elected and re-elected members. She wished the past board members well and asked the we move onward and upward,

3. Fabens ISD Board of Trustees November 8, 2022 Election – 6:43 – 7:01 PM

The process to complete and finalize the November 8, 2022 Fabens ISD Board of Trustees election was as follows:

3.A. Canvass of Fabens ISD Board Election Results

Dr .Veronica Vijil, Superintendent of Schools, read the Order canvassing the returns of the 2022 election:

FABENS ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEE, PLACE 1 – 4 year term

Javier Garay – 464 votes – 44.87%

Angel Ornelas – 570 votes – 55.13%

FABENS ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEE, PLACE 2 – 4 year term

Emma Perez – 236 votes 23.69%

Maricela Vega – 203 votes – 20.38%

Benjamin Morales – 557 votes – 55.92%

FABENS ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEE, PLACE 3 – 2 year term

Viola Hernandez – 426 votes – 43.56 %

Luis “Charlie” Estrada – 552 votes – 56.44%

FABENS ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEE, PLACE 4 – 4 year term

Julieta Sepulveda Ramirez – 582 votes – 54.49%

Greg Spence – 486 votes – 45.51 %

Results for each of the 4 places declaring the winners were:

Place 1 – Angel Ornelas

Place 2 – Benjamin Morales

Place 3 – Luis Charlie Estrada and

Place 4 – Julieta Sepulveda Ramirez.

3.B. Resolution Certifying Election Results

The Resolution accepting the certifiable results of the November 8, 2022 election, delivered by the El Paso County Elections Department were announced:

Place 1 – Angel Ornelas

Place 2 – Benjamin Morales

Place 3 – Luis Charlie Estrada and

Place 4 – Julieta Sepulveda Ramirez

3.C. Officer Certificate Signing

Dr. Veronica Vijil read out loud the Certificate of Election as they were presented to each newly elected member.

3.D. Statement of Elected Officer

Justice of the Peace, Precinct 6, Judge Ruben Lujan was present to administer the Statement of Elected Officer.

3.E. Administer Oath of Office

Justice of the Peace, Precinct 6, Judge Ruben Lujan was present to administer the Oath of Office.

3.F. Board Reorganization - Election of Board Officers

The final step was reorganizing the officers of the Board.

Ms. Julieta Sepulveda Ramirez nominated and Mr. Angel Ornelas seconded for president: Ms. Sylvia Gonzales

Motion Carried: 6 – 0

Ms. Julieta Sepulveda Ramirez nominated Mr. Charlie Estrada for Vice President.

Motion Carried: 6 – 0

Ms. Sylvia Gonzales nominated Ms. Julieta Sepulveda Ramirez for Secretary.

Motion Carried: 6 - 0

4. District Employees and Officers – 7:01 – 7:04 PM

4.A. 2022 - 2023 New Hires – 7:01 – 7:03 PM

Ms. Velma Rincon, HR Specialist, introduced the newest hires to the district:

Jessica Martinez, Food Service, Meagan Myers, English Teacher – FMS Martin Astroga Arsate, General Maintenance and Ms. Carmen Corral, Campus Clerk at FMS.

4.B. Approval of Filling Full Time Employee Position - Fabens Elementary School Special Education Teacher – 7:03 – 7:04 PM

Ms. Rosanne Armendariz, Special Education Director, presented the item and asked if any board member had questions regarding the information presented to them regarding the new position she wished to post and fill. No questions were asked and Mr. Orlando Flores motioned and Mr. Angel Ornelas seconded to approve the filling of the Special Education teacher position at Fabens Elementary School.

Motion Carried: 6 - 0

5. Fabens ISD Superintendent Update – 7:05 – 7:20 PM

5.A. District Holiday Performances

Ms. Sofia Maciel presented to the Board and community the list of all currently scheduled winter festival activities.

5.B. Fabens Elementary School (FES) Pumpkin Contest Winners

A short presentation of the FES pumpkin contest participants was shown. Winners present were awarded certificates.

5.C. Fabens Middle School (FMS) 8th Grade Volleyball Conference Champions

Athletic Director, Rolaura De Anda recognized the FMS 8th grade coaches Rodriguez and Chavira and players for their outstanding 2022 season. Players present were presented their awards.

6. Consent Agenda – 7:26 – 7:28 PM

6.A. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, October 19, 2022

6.B. Minutes of the Workshop Meeting, October 29, 2022

6.C. Fabens ISD Monthly Financial Report

6.D. Interlocal Agreement Between Region 8 Education Service Center and Fabens ISD

6.E. Socorro ISD Interlocal Purchasing Agreement for Print Shop Services

Dr. Veronica Vijil opened the item and read the list of Consent Agenda. Mr. Orlando Flores motioned and Mr. Ben Morales seconded to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

Motion Carried: 6 - 0

7. Student Outcome Goals – 7:29 – 8:12 PM

7.A. Secondary Student Data Presentation

Ms. Michele Gonzalez, Assistant Superintendent, presented a Power Point presentation providing the board and community with the secondary student outcomes. Questions from the Board were answered.

8. Board of Trustees Business – 8:27 – 9:37 PM

8.A. Approve Newly Updated Fabens ISD Board Operating Procedures – 8:27 – 8:29 PM

Ms. Sylvia Gonzales opened the item and Mr. Orlando Flores motioned and Mr. Ben Morales seconded to approve the newly revised Fabens ISD Board Operating Procedures.

Motion Carried: 6 - 0

8.B. Rescheduling / Cancellation of Fabens ISD December 2022 Regular Board Meeting – 8:29 – 8:42 PM

Dr. Vijil opened the item and did state that administration had reviewed past December agendas and there were no pertinent items that needed to be presented. She did state that if the Board had no requests, we could cancel the December 2022 board meeting. Mr. Ben Morales motioned and Mr. Orlando Flores seconded to cancel the 2022 December regular board meeting.

Motion Failed: 3 – 3

Voting Against: Mr. Angel Ornelas, Ms. Julieta Sepulveda Ramirez and Ms. Sylvia Gonzales.

After a short discussion Mr. Ben Morales motioned and Mr. Orlando Flores seconded to cancel if no pertinent items were needed to be presented.

Motion Carried: 6 - 0

8.C. Discussion and Approval of Fabens ISD Board of Trustees Special Board Meeting 8:42 – 8:44 PM

Dr. Vijil opened the item and explained that Texas Association of School Boards Policy Consultant, Ms. Kathy London would be in the district to hold a policy review with administration and recommended we have a Special board meeting to review policy with the Board. Mr. Orlando Flores motioned and Mr. Angel Ornelas seconded to approve January 4, 2023 for a special board meeting to review policy.

Motion Carried: 6 - 0

8.D. Approval of Early Release Date for Fabens Middle School and Fabens High School on January 13, 2023 - UIL Hosted at Fabens ISD – 8:44 – 8:48 PM

Dr. Ana Galaviz, Director of Federal Programs, stated that as Chairperson of the District Improvement Committee who make a major contribution to the district calendar, she would be making the presentation. She stated that with early release at Fabens Elementary and O'Donnell Intermediate parents would be struggling with different release times and would be able to attend the event at Fabens Elementary. Teachers would be able to attend staff development after the students release. Mr. Orlando Flores motioned and Mr. Charlie Estrada seconded to approve early release for Fabens Middle and Fabens High Schools on January 13, 2023 as presented.

Motion Carried: 6 - 0

8.E. Elementary Secondary School Emergency Relief II (ESSER) Presentation – 8:48 – 9:07

Dr. Ana Galaviz, Director of Federal Programs, presented an informational ESSER II and III update. In her update she stated the different programs, products that had been allocated to be paid by ESSER funds. She provided a short background of the funding and answered questions from the Board. She did state that funding for a Security Manager had been set aside under ESSER III. Clarification was made on the new water fountains in the schools.

8.F. Discussion and Approval of New Security Manager Position – 9:07 –

9:22 PM

Dr. Galaviz and Mr. Michael Perez presented the item. Mr. Perez reviewed the audit conducted by the Texas Safe School Auditor. He provided a history of how the audit happened at the O'Donnell Intermediate. The auditor was immediately identified and confronted by our security department. The auditor asked to be escorted to the front office. Once verified as an auditor from Texas Safe Schools, he completed his audit.

Dr. Galaviz concluded the item by stating that to continue to sustain a safe environment, the administration recommends the hiring of a new security manager position to assist with all the requirements. The position would be paid by ESSER funds through 2024. Upon nearing the end of ESSER funds the district would look into grant money to continue funding the position.

After the discussion Mr. Orlando Flores motioned and Mr. Charlie Estrada seconded to approve the new safety coordinator position as presented.

Motion Carried: 6 - 0

8.G. Cotton Valley Connect Discussion – 8:13 – 8:26 PM

This item was presented by Mr. Michael Hernandez, El Paso County Economic Development Director. He highlighted the need for all community members to have reliable internet connectivity. Through studies the county has found that only about 50% have adequate internet services. He stated that through grant funding the county hopes to help neighboring communities access adequate internet services. He updated the Board on the process the county has in place for the grants to facilitate a quick process from applying to completion.

8.H. Fabens ISD Warehouse Relocation Presentation – 9:22 – 9:37 PM

Mr. David Ayala, Director of Facilities, presented the informational item and had a Power Point presentation with pictures of the different locations being considered as a suitable warehouse location: the old TSR location (#1) and the old auto tech building (#2). He reviewed the pros, cons and costs associated with each of the locations to make them suitable as a warehouse. After the presentation he stated that the district would proceed with location #2 the old auto tech building.

9. Adjourn

There being no further business Mr. Ben Morales motioned and Mr. Orlando Flores seconded to adjourn at 9:38 PM.